

THE UNION FESTIVAL IN KENTUCKY.

A great Barbecue and Union Festival, in compliment to Mr. CLAY, was held at the Fair Grounds, near Lexington, Kentucky, on the 17th instant. Though the day was rendered very unpropitious by a heavy rain, yet a large concourse of people, without distinction of party, were present from all parts of the State.

Ex-Governor METCALFE, as President of the meeting, opened the ceremonies by a speech applauding in lively strains Mr. CLAY and his coadjutors in the peace measures lately adopted by Congress.

The following patriotic Resolutions were then reported by M. C. JOHNSON, Esq., from a committee appointed for that purpose, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this meeting desires to express its profound gratitude to Almighty God for his protecting care over our beloved country since the late dangers that encompassed it, and its conviction that his Providence has arrested the dissolution of the Union.

Second, That the bills of adjustment reported to the Senate by the Committee of Thirteen, and afterwards separately adopted by Congress—taken together as a system of measures for the settlement of the whole question of slavery, and based as they are upon the principle of strict non-interference by the General Government—present the almost unanimous approval of the people of Kentucky.

Third, That to the plan of settlement reported by that committee, and the debate consequent thereon, is the country chiefly indebted, under Providence, for the peaceful and honorable adjustment of this distracting question.

Fourth, That to the authors of services like these there can be no reward like the devotion of the consciences of good deeds and the contemplation of the happiness of a great people preserved by their exertions; yet it will become us publicly to express to them the deep and abiding sense of gratitude with which their services were regarded, and to assure them of the affectionate remembrance in which their names will ever be held by this people.

Fifth, That a severance of these States could never have been effected without a civil war, attended by a sacrifice of life and property unparalleled in the history of Nations, and resulting in the prostration of industry, in the disregard of law, in the misery of Americans as a people, and their extinction as a nation.

Sixth, That this meeting, composed of every party and sect in politics and religion, entertain the warmest affection for the Union and the Constitution as they are; and as Kentuckians—lovers of our country—we feel an honest pride in the declaration that "under the auspices of Heaven and the precepts of Washington, Kentucky will be the last to give up the Union."

The following Toasts, prepared by the same committee, were then announced and received with great applause:

1. THE UNION—It must be preserved.
2. MILLARD FILLMORE, President of the United States—He faced the perils which threatened the Union as became his position and the magnitude of the danger, with moderation, patriotism, and firmness.
3. KENTUCKY—Geographically the heart of the Union—while that heart beats it will never falter in its devotion to the Union, the Country, and the Constitution.
4. DANIEL WEBSTER, of Massachusetts—His noble conduct in the Senate has devoted him to the motto, "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."
5. HENRY S. FOOTE, of Mississippi—The ardent advocate of Southern rights, the strenuous defender of Southern institutions—his heart is still large enough to embrace the whole Union.
6. DANIEL S. DICKINSON, of New York—A fearless statesman, who looks to the Constitution and to reason, not to passion, for his guide.
7. LEWIS CLAY—Trammelled by legislative instructions, he stood upon the floor of the Senate a fettered giant, but keeping his eye with a patriot's courage upon the eternal principles of justice and the Constitution, and arming himself with truth and reason, he dissolved the fetters that bound him to a section, and gave himself to his country.
8. HENRY CLAY—Kentucky, with one heart and one voice, places Henry Clay where, during the late session of Congress, he had placed himself, high above the platform of party, and on this lofty eminence he proudly presents him for the admiration of the nation's coming ages. The priceless honor he has thus won, by his country, for his spirit-stirring eloquence, his lofty patriotism, and courage in defence of our beloved Union, the last hope of freedom and of mankind. Nobly has he won the honor—long may he wear it.
9. THE KENTUCKY DELEGATION IN THE PRESENT CONGRESS—In their united support of the measures of compromise, they showed themselves faithful representatives of the will of their constituency.
10. THE FRIENDS OF THE UNION IN CONGRESS, OF WHATEVER SECTION OR PARTY.

The toast complimentary of Mr. CLAY was prefaced by Major J. C. BRECKINRIDGE with a speech of great beauty and eloquence. Mr. CLAY's response occupied about an hour, and is represented to have been truly eloquent and admirable in its style and sentiment.

The proceedings wound up, before dinner, with an animated address from the Hon. C. S. MOREHEAD, in response to a general call for him, which (the Lexington Observer says) was replete with sound patriotic views, eloquently and beautifully expressed. The Observer adds:

"Many gentlemen of distinction were present, among whom were Governor HELM, Judge BRECK, the Hon. JOHN C. MASON, the Hon. JOHN B. THOMPSON, Hon. JAMES HARLAN, &c., and, but for the wretched weather which prevailed during the whole period of the entertainment, they would all have been required to favor the assembly with speeches.

"If any proof were needed, this meeting would, beyond question, demonstrate that there is but one feeling in Kentucky with regard to the honorable adjustment of the slavery question by Congress, and that no Disunion designs, whether from the North or the South, will find favor upon our soil."

Letters were read to the meeting from the Hon. J. R. UNDERWOOD, LINN BOYD, HUMPHREY MARSHALL, A. BEATTY, A. W. GRAHAM, and THOMAS B. STEVENSON, of Kentucky; from General CASS, of Michigan; and Hon. H. S. FOOTE, of Mississippi. We make room for the letters of the latter gentlemen.

DETROIT, OCTOBER 12, 1850.

GENTLEMEN: I have received your invitation to attend the festival to be held at Lexington, on the 17th instant, in commemoration of the adjustment of the questions which have recently agitated our country, and in honor of Mr. Clay and the public men who have aided in this work of compromise. It will be out of my power to be with you upon that occasion; but I am not the less obliged to you for this token of your remembrance, as one who rejoices with heartfelt joy in the hope that the action of Congress will be long, if not now, be acceptable, not to any particular section of the country, but to the whole, and that it will restore that harmony and good feeling without which this Union could never have been established, and without which it cannot be preserved.

I should have been happy to join you in the manifestations of regard for your distinguished fellow-citizen, Mr. Clay, who, by his firmness and whose recent services in the cause of the country command him to the respect and to the gratitude of his countrymen. I witnessed his exertions during the past session with feelings of admiration; exertions dictated by the highest patriotism, and displaying talents and energy worthy of the best days of his power, and which will ever place his name high on the roll of public benefactors.

We have passed through a fearful crisis, indeed, we are yet passing through it; for there are elements of trouble in operation, both in the North and in the South, which, if not wisely dealt with by man and mercifully overruled by Providence, may yet render asunder this Confederacy, leaving its fragments no one can tell where; but all can tell that they will be memorable proofs in after times, as similar examples of national folly have been in times that preceded us, how easily human passions, the highest indeed after the religion of God, are sacrificed to human passions, as well by communities as by individuals. While rejoicing with you and with every lover of his country, East, West, North, and South, that we are thus far, permit me to remark that our business is with the present and the future, and not with the past; or with the past only so far as we can deduce from it useful lessons of experience. We are kind only hope to heal our internal dissensions by bonds of kindness and conciliation; by a strict determination to adhere to the provisions and to the true objects of the constitution—that law which is high enough for any American citizen in the regulation of his rights and

duties; and by a spirit of mutual regard ready to concede as well as to demand when sectional questions arise, with common umpire but the patriotism of triumph has been attained, in the recent adjustment, triumph has been attained; and this is a true cause of rejoicing as the adjustment itself; and whenever we come together to interchange congratulations upon the result, if we do so in that enlarged spirit of patriotism which looks to each as well as all, thanking the God of our fathers, and our own God, that we are yet one country, one people, one Government, we may look forward, with the blessings of Providence, to a more glorious career than any recorded in the long annals of history.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
LEWIS CASS.

LOUISVILLE, OCTOBER 9, 1850.

GENTLEMEN: It is, I assure you, with deep and peculiar regret that I feel constrained to decline the honor of being present at the "Clay Barbecue" on the 17th instant, to which you have so courteously invited me. I have been for two years past absent from the State of Mississippi, and I regret to say that certain public movements are now in progress which require my personal attention. I consider myself bound to do all in my power, and under circumstances which seem to admit of an instant's delay. It has been my wish for several years to visit the interior of your noble State, and to become better acquainted with her institutions, her people, and her eminent men; and I confess that there is something peculiarly attractive and worthy of my attention in the prospect of a visit to your State. I have witnessed with unmingled delight and admiration those patriotic exertions to which you are about to do special and deserved honor. I have listened with pleased ears and with overflowing heart to every word of those majestic harangues of which you have perchance only seen a cold and meagre report in the public prints. I have heard Mr. Clay's undimmed efforts by night and by day in public debate, and in private conference, to save our institutions from menaced ruin, and our people from the horrors of intestine war. I have seen him rise, with a magnanimity unsurpassed in the annals of statesmanship, above all the influences of party and section and personal prejudice. In fine, I have heard and seen, and felt, what is to me a noble and a patriotic leader of patriots whose heroic efforts for no language or commendation can adequately portray—for weeks and months of earnest exertion and patriotic industry, and fearless energy, he struggled to secure the adoption of that scheme of adjustment and compromise, the over-summation of which twenty millions of freemen are now rejoicing, and which the civilized world is regarding with deserved honor and respect. Indeed, gentlemen, I would rejoice to be with you on the 17th instant; but, as cruel necessity forbids me this pleasure, allow me to ask of you to tender to those who will be there assembled the following sentiment, in my name:

"HENRY CLAY—The venerable Chairman of the Committee of Thirteen—the magnanimous statesman, who, while his country is in danger, 'knows no North, no South, no East, no West'; who shrinks from no difficulties—recalls to no dangers—and dares to do his duty, regardless alike of censure and of applause—in defiance of faction and factiousities. May his noble example be both admired and emulated."

I have the honor to be, gentlemen, your friend and fellow-citizen.  
H. S. FOOTE.

FURTHER DISCOVERY IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM.

FROM THE ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.

A circular from Professor SCHUMACHER, of Altona, received by the editor of the *Alexandria Gazette*, announces the discovery of a planet, on the 13th of September, by Mr. Hind, at Mr. Bishop's Observatory, London. Announcements of this kind, however, are not infrequently made, and are, for the most part, of no interest, they possessed a few years ago; but, as an evidence of the advance in this department of science, and thus of the progress of science generally, they must still be regarded by many with feelings of no little pleasure. From the discovery of *Vesta* by Doctor Olbers, of Bremen, in 1801, no less than 1000 planets have been discovered, and the number of known planets belonging to our system till the discovery of the *Asteria*, by Hencke, on the 8th of December, 1845, a period of nearly forty years. 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